

By Mr. Keene, a petition from sundry inhabitants of Caroline county, praying that a bridge may be built over the Bloomery Branch, and that certain roads therein mentioned, may be opened; referred to Messrs. Keene, Saulsbury and Brown.

On motion by Mr. Teackle, the committee on public instruction, to whom was this day referred the memorial of sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, praying the passage of a law to provide means to put the state system of public education into speedy operation, was discharged from the further consideration thereof, and the same was referred to the committee on ways and means.

Leaves were this day asked and obtained to introduce bills of the following titles, viz.

By Mr. King. An act to authorise and empower the justices of the levy court of Charles county, to fix and regulate the rates of public inns. Messrs. King, Rogerson and John Hughes were named as a committee to prepare the bill.

By Mr. Barnes, An act to prevent gaming. Messrs. Barnes, Stevens and John Hughes, were named as a committee to prepare the bill. And,

By Mr. Somervell. An act to build a new poor's house in Calvert county. Messrs. Somervell, Bourne and Brooke, were named as a committee to prepare the bill.

Mr. Teackle, chairman of the committee on the subject of public instruction, delivered the following report; which was read and laid on the table, viz.

The committee on public instruction, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of withdrawing the donations from colleges, academies and schools, have had the same under consideration, and are decidedly of opinion that it would be inexpedient to withdraw the munificence of the state from those institutions. Experience has proved that they cannot exist without the aid of public patronage, and the withdrawing of that aid would operate to their destruction, and in effect give to the rich a monopoly of the higher branches of education; as men of wealth can afford to support their sons at distant colleges or universities, whilst the middling and even lower orders of society, would be deprived of the means of acquiring a classical education, which is now presented by the seminaries endowed in their neighbourhood; and, in the deficiency of the necessary qualifications, consequent upon that deprivation, they would be shut out from the fair prospect of competition, and the equal pretensions which they would otherwise enjoy for public employment, or professional elevation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order, Jas. H. Milbourne, Com. Clk.

Mr. Chapman, chairman of the committee on ways and